

Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam Speaker, members of the body, on the Schimek amendment I think after the movement of LR 6CA, I think probably we do need a...the part on the red part, the red ink, I think would be all right. Now on the other portion I'm like Senator Stevens, I think we had a good discussion on that on the floor, or excuse me, in committee and I'm sure you could have a...anyone could line up on either side of that. Now I talked to former Senator Moore, now Secretary of the State visited with me and he would like to see it as it is in the Schimek amendment, but I still have some problems with that and...but like I say, I can see it being either way. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Madam President, members of the body, I would just like to clarify that I have no quarrel with what the committee did to the bill. I think there's some legitimate arguments on both sides of the question and I could probably live with the committee amendments the way they are, but I just think that there are some issues here that do need to be discussed and I would like to point out to you, if we're talking about the red ink, if you will look on page 5 of the bill, page 5 mentions the contrasting color. That's existing statute. That's what the bill crossed out and inserted red in. If you take red out, you're still left with contrasting color and I don't care what color it is, the cost is going to be the same. Anytime you get another color indicated, if you're printing these, it would cost more. I submit to you the red won't cost any more than a contrasting color and, in addition, it can be done very simply with a stamp and pad, so I don't think cost is really a factor and a light green as was used last time on some petitions does not really show up. I think red is much better. But it's not a big argument and I don't want to tie up the floor here. The other thing that I do want to mention is that right now being passed out to you is a letter from former Senator Moore, Secretary of State Scott Moore, and urging us to reinstate the verification process language. He says that the verification process for statewide petitions is a very trying task for county clerks and election commissioners in this state, is a time consuming process that requires the clerk to make judgment calls about the validity of a particular signature. The courts in the past have added to this burden by applying a substantial compliance doctrine that treats signatures as valid